

East County Intercom



Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Joy Nurmi, Director
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Newsletter

December 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CENTER AND AROUND...

URGE THE COUNCIL TO MOVE ON CODE ENFORCEMENT REFORM!

One of the principal reasons people move to or stay in Montgomery County is our quality of life. But too often, that quality of life is being eroded by the encroachment of commercial activities into our residential neighborhoods and by loopholes in our County code that do not allow for timely enforcement of violations. The County Executive's Code Enforcement Working Group collaborated with residents and neighborhood associations to identify problems and solutions. The result was a package of code enforcement legislation that was sent to the Council. **But progress on this has stalled on this package of legislation and we need your help now!** For more details, click here www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/Flyers/urgethecounciltomoveoncodeenforcementreform.pdf

Free Legal Advice Clinics

The Montgomery County Bar Foundation Pro Bono Program, in partnership with Eastern Montgomery Regional Services, provides free **Legal Advice Consultations** for low income residents on the *first and second Thursdays* of each month from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The upcoming dates for the legal clinics are **December 3rd and 10th**. A client intake must be completed before 6:00 pm. For more information, call the Pro Bono Program Monday through Thursday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (301) 424-7651 or (301) 424-7652 or (301) 424-7633. Clinics are held at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring. For directions call 240-777-8400

SAVE THE DATE!

**Tuesday, January 12 at
Eastern Montgomery RSC,
3300 Briggs Chaney Road,
Silver Spring, MD 20904**

OPERATING BUDGET FORUMS WITH THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett will sponsor five budget forums in January to seek input from residents about the significant challenges facing the County in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2011 Operating Budget. These sessions are hosted by the Regional Services Center Directors and the Regional Center citizen Advisory Boards and are open to residents from any part of the County. Meetings are held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Regional Services Centers, except for the Mid-County session which will be held at Leisure World, and the Silver Spring session will be held at the Long Branch Community Centers. More info. to follow.

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Topics of Interest

- East County Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Information

HOC WAITING LIST FOR PAINT BRANCH APARTMENTS IN SILVER SPRING OPEN

One and 3-bedroom apartments available; rentals are based upon income for qualified applicants. The waiting list is open until **January 1**. For details, contact Constance Greene @ 240-773-9017.

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

IDA Sector Meeting

Please come out and join your neighbors and local business owners to meet with police and learn how to make our community safer. **January 21st from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, MD. For more information contact, 240-777-8400 / email eastco.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov

Volunteer Center, Interfaith Works Invite Participation in Holiday Giving Project; Opportunities to volunteer and/or donate goods, cash http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=6037

EVENTS HELD AT THE CENTER

Incredible East County Recycle Day



By the time the shredder trucks arrived at the East County Regional Center there were more than 30 cars lined up to take advantage of the free document/paper shredding and household donation activity held on November 14th. Student volunteers along with staff from the County's Environmental Protection Agency and the East County Regional Center helped unload 267 vehicle loads of paper and donated items. All totaled this event collected 2 truck loads of donated household goods and shredded 11,900 pounds of paper and cardboard. *We extend our special thanks to Office Paper Systems and the Arc of Montgomery for the generous donation of their time and equipment to make this event possible.*

AARP Volunteer instructors needed!

Name something you can do that gives you the satisfaction of helping older drivers and making the roadways safer in your community. The answer is simple: become an **AARP Driver Safety Program** Volunteer! All over the country, volunteers are sharing information about defensive driving and helping drivers 50 and over adjust to age-related physical changes. Instructors conduct AARP Driver Safety courses, using videos and workbooks developed for the program. The schedule can be very flexible with classes taught on the weekday, weekends or evenings. For more information contact June Dickinson at 301 365-0630 or junedickinson@verizon.net.

ESOL CLASSES—English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes being held at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road in Silver Spring. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 am until 12:00 pm and on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The classes will continue until mid December 2009. **Enrollment for the spring semester will begin in early January 2010.** Please call 240-777-8400 for more information.

Media Release from Dept. of Police on Reoccurring Distraction Theft Schemes Target Senior Citizens.

To review, go to

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/lrsc/eastco/flyers/departments/police.pdf

Grant Writing Workshop in Landover, MD December 17-18, 2009

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grant writing workshop in Landover, December 17-18, 2009. Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K-12, colleges and universities are encouraged to attend. Purchase orders, checks and cards are welcome. Multi-enrollment discounts are available. Tuition is \$425 and includes all materials: workbook and accompanying 420MB resource CD that's packed full of tools and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Tuition payment is not required at the time of enrollment. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary. For more information including venue location and maps, graduate testimonials and instant, online enrollment, please visit: <http://GrantWritingUSA.com> **Grant Writing USA Contact:** Cathy Rittenhouse, Customer Service, Grant Writing USA 800.814.8191 cathy@grantwritingusa.com **Host:** Lisa S. Stafford, Host Agency, 301.583.2432 lisa.stafford@pgparks.com If your office already receives government grants, then consider the **Grant Management Workshop** hosted by **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in Washington, DC on December 14-15, 2009**. Staying in compliance with federal grant requirements can be daunting. With the help of experienced Grant Writing USA instructors you'll learn the necessary compliance steps in an organized, comprehensive and easy to understand manner. Full details are available at <http://www.grantwritingusa.com/events/manage/mwcog1209m.html> More than 10,000 agencies across America turn to Grant Writing USA for grant writing, grant management and grant research training.

MCFRS Online *Serving with Dedication, Courage, and Compassion* Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service - Montgomery County, Maryland

Winter months in particular are the peak time for house fires and carbon monoxide poisonings, with most incidents due to improperly ventilated or malfunctioning heating sources. Families can better protect themselves by having working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms on every level of the home and in sleeping areas. For more details, go to

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/lrsc-safe/resources/citizens/heating.asp>

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP INFORMATION SESSION

Kim Watson & Pepco cordially invite you to an information session and thanks you for your participation in our Community Advisory Group during 2009. **Thursday, December 10, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** at the Strathmore Mansion, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda MD. R.S.V. P. by December 2, 2009 to Cynthia Simmons, at (202) 872-3462, or by email at csimmons@pepco.com or to Zenayda Mostofi at (202) 872-3590.

Pulitzer Prize-winning literary critic Michael Dirda to appear at White Oak Library - Michael Dirda, Pulitzer Prize-winning critic for The Washington Post, will discuss his latest book, *"Classics for Pleasure,"* at the White Oak Library, 11701 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, on December 16 at 7 p.m. He will also talk about his work as a literary critic and reviewer of best-selling books for The Post. The author will answer questions and sign books. He received the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism in 1993 for his book reviews in The Post. To request ADA program accommodations, at least five work days in advance, or for more information, contact the White Oak Library at 240-773-9555.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY!

Resurrection Church 2009 Winterfest and Craft Show- Friday, December 4, 2009 from 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm and Saturday, December 5, 2009 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. For more details please go to <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/winterfest2009.pdf>

Holiday Breakfast Featuring Santa - come and join fun activities -Arts and Crafts, Door Prizes, Facepainting and Tattoos. *Santa will be available to take Holiday Orders and Pictures.*

Santa arrives at 10:00 a.m. When: **Saturday, December 12, 2009 Time : 9:00 - 11:00 A.M.**

Cost : Ages 3-7 \$3.00/plate; Ages 8 and up \$5.00/plate

Where: East County Community Center, 3310 Gateshead Manor Way, Silver Spring, MD 20904

For more information, please call 240-777-8090 or go to <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/holidaybreakfast.pdf>



Holiday Break Basketball Clinic - at the East County Community Center, 3310 Gateshead Manor Way, Silver Spring in Maryland. When: **December 28 - December 30, 2009**

Time : 10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Where: East County Community Center, 3310 Gateshead Manor Way, Silver Spring, MD **For more info. please call 240-777-8090 or go to:**

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/Flyers/holidaybreakclinic09.pdf

Marilyn J. Praisner Community Center

Tiny Tot Open Gym – Free for ages 4 years & younger. Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays, 9:30am – 11:30am. This parent facilitated program gives toddlers and their parents an opportunity to play, socialize, meet new friends and have lots of fun. For additional information contact Carol Brown @ 240-777-4970.

Chess Tournament—Participate in the Chess Tournament being held at the Marilyn J. Praisner Center on **December 12, 2009**. For details, please contact Carol Brown @ 240-777-4970. More... www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/Flyers/mjpcchesstournament.pdf

A Special Thanks to the Marilyn J. Praisner Community Center Advisory Committee for another great year. Thank you for your outstanding and dedicated support, hard work and commitment to the Department of Recreation and the East Region Community. Members: Germaine Farrell (Chair); Diane Green (Vice Chair); Yolanda Lee (Secretary); Adenike Coore; Lashawn Smith; and Nicolas Smith. If you live in the East Region area (Burtonsville, Spencerville, White Oak, Cloverly, Fairland and Hillandale) and are interested in serving on the Community Center Advisory Committee, please contact Carol Brown @ 240-777-4970.

MCPS Parent Academy workshops for East County

12/3/09	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Ten Laws to Help the 21st Century Parent - Parenting 21st century children is a rewarding challenge. This engaging and interactive session will help parents learn ways to build a strong parent–child bridge and strengthen the student–parent–school relationship.	White Oak MS, 12201 New Hampshire Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20904
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For more information, go to <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/schedule.aspx>

December 4 & 5, 2009—The annual Holiday Green Sale at Transfiguration Episcopal Church, 13925 New Hampshire Ave., Colesville, will be held on Friday, December 4th, 2008 10am – 7pm and Saturday, December 5th, 2008 10am – 4pm. If any of you are “Crafters” and would be interested in selling your wares on one or both of these days, Craft Tables are available. \$30.00 One Day; \$50.00 Both Days; Set-up Thursday, December 3rd from 6-9 pm. Contact: Karen Stoddard Karen@accelix.net

Dec. 7, 2009 5:00-9:00 pm—Join Fairland Elementary School at Cheeburger Cheeburger, located at 15755 Columbia Pike (Burtonsville Crossing near the Blockbuster and Giant). Cheeburger Cheeburger will donate 20% of all sales during that time period. Please tell the restaurant that you are there for the Fairland ES fundraiser. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us that evening for eat in or take out. If you have any questions, please email Kim Gibbs at kim_a_gibbs@hotmail.com

MADDEN10 Tournament coming to East County! Beginning **December 14th**, Montgomery County Department of Recreation – East Region presents MADDEN10 Tournament at the following Community Centers- Marilyn J. Praisner; East County and Long Branch. For details call 240-777-4980 or go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/rsc/eastco/Flyers/MADDENTOURNAMENT.pdf

FREE INTERNET AND EMAIL TRAINING AVAILABLE TO LOW INCOME SENIORS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY- The JCA Senior Community Service Employment Program has received additional funding to offer free internet and email training for low income seniors in Montgomery County. This program is called “Generations On Line”. The first of two initial training sites for this pilot will be at JCA’s Bethesda Vital Living Center at 4805 Edgemoor Lane, 2nd floor, in Bethesda (located in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Service Center). Training will be in the mornings Monday through Friday, with computers available for practice each weekday afternoon except Tuesday. If you know seniors, 55 years old or older, who would like to learn how to use the internet and email, please have them contact Linda Reaves at 240.395.0918 to schedule their training sessions.

